

Schwarzkopf, H. Norman

United States Army General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, born Trenton, N.J., Aug. 22, 1934, was the commander of the U.S.-led coalition of land, sea, and air forces that won decisive victory in the PERSIAN GULF WAR in 1991.

Schwarzkopf graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1956 and became an infantry second lieutenant. His father, Herbert Norman Schwarzkopf, was also a West Point graduate. The senior Schwarzkopf gave his name to his son, but disliking the name Herbert, gave him only the letter H. The senior Schwarzkopf became superintendent of the New Jersey State Police and was the chief investigator in the kidnapping case of Charles Lindbergh's son. He later (1942-48) went to Iran, where he helped establish the Shah's police force. At the age of 12, young Norman lived in Tehran with his father.

Schwarzkopf in 1964 received a master's degree from the University of Southern California, where he specialized in guided missile engineering. He married Brenda Holsinger on July 6, 1968.

He served two tours in Vietnam and was decorated three times with the Silver Star. In May 1970, he crossed a minefield to rescue a soldier who had been wounded. He returned to the United States in 1970 as a lieutenant colonel.

Schwarzkopf was later military assistant in the office of the assistant secretary of the Army in Washington, D.C. (1973-74); deputy commander of the 172d Infantry Brigade, Fort Richardson, Alaska (1974-76); commander of the 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Washington (1976-78); and deputy director for plans of the U.S. Pacific Command, Camp Smith, Hawaii (1978-80). He was assistant division commander, 8th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Europe (1980-82); deputy director of military personnel management and deputy chief of staff personnel (1982-83); commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division and Fort Stewart, Georgia (1983-85).

Schwarzkopf was the deputy commander of U.S. forces in the Grenada operation in 1983. He later served with the Department of the Army (1985-86); as commanding general of I Corps at Fort Lewis, Wash. (1986-87); and served another tour with the Department of the Army (1987-88). Later in 1988, he became commander in chief of the U.S. Central Command, then headquartered at MacDill AFB, Florida. The Central Command was involved with U.S. military concerns in nations in the Middle East, Africa, and the Persian Gulf. During 1988, Schwarzkopf received his fourth star as general.

As commander in chief of the U.S.-led coalition forces sent to Saudi Arabia as part of Operation Desert Shield, following the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, General Schwarzkopf coordinated the armed forces of the many nations opposed to the expansionism of Iraqi ruler Saddam HUSSEIN. He played a key role in the rapid and decisive defeat of Iraqi forces in early 1991 in Operation Desert Storm.

In addition to the Silver Star, General Schwarzkopf holds the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with three oak leaf clusters, the Purple Heart with oak leaf cluster, the Combat Infantryman badge, Master Parachutist badge, and others.

Bibliography: Anderson, Jack, and Van Atta, Dale, *Stormin' Norman* (1991); Ridgeway, James, ed., *The March to War* (1991); Schwarzkopf, H. Norman, and Petre, Peter, *It Doesn't Take a Hero* (1992).

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